



NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
111 SOUTH GEORGE MASON DRIVE
ARLINGTON VA 22204-1382

NGB-AVS

2 June 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR All Army National Guard Leaders

SUBJECT: Safeguarding Army National Guard Motorcycle Riders in 2009

1. As summer approaches, the lure of the open road beckons all motorcycle riders. Unfortunately, the number of motorcycle fatalities continues to climb. The Army National Guard lost 36 Soldiers last year due to motorcycle accidents. This year, the number of motorcycle fatalities already equals 70 percent of our current combat losses.
2. A high-performance motorcycle coupled with an inexperienced rider is a formula for death. We must address the lack of handling skills of our military motorcycle riders.
3. The Army National Guard requires all ARNG Soldiers to complete motorcycle training. The training is free and personally rewarding. All Leaders must ensure that their Soldiers:
 - a. Understand the requirements of operating their bikes
 - b. Get the right training
 - c. Wear the correct personal protective clothing
 - d. Are properly licensed and insured, and
 - e. Ride within their limits
4. Rider Coaches, certified by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, will be sent to your State upon request to provide the Basic Rider, Experienced Rider, and Military Sportbike Rider courses. Classes are also available to train individuals to become Rider Coaches.
5. Together we can eliminate motorcycle accidents and fatalities by taking advantage of available training and support. Let's keep our Soldiers safe and their Families intact.
6. The point of contact is COL Garrett Jensen, Chief, Aviation and Safety Division, at DSN 327-7700, 703-607-7700, or garrett.p.jensen@us.army.mil.

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